

Please add new Claims 12-19 as follows:

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12. (New) A process according to Claim 11 wherein the dicarboxylic acid is selected from C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>13</sub> dicarboxylic acids and mixtures thereof.
  13. (New) A process according to Claim 11 wherein the water is added within 10 minutes of the dicarboxylic acid becoming molten.
  14. (New) A process according to Claim 11 wherein water is added in an amount of at least 1g per 1,000g of dicarboxylic acid.
  15. (New) A process according to Claim 11 wherein at least 1g of water per 1,000g of dicarboxylic acid is added per minute.
  16. (New) A process according to Claim 11 wherein the dicarboxylic acid is heated to a temperature at least 5°C above its melting point.
  17. (New) A process according to Claim 12 wherein the dicarboxylic acid is hexanedioic acid.
  18. (New) A process according to Claim 11, wherein the process further comprises adding a chelant to the molten dicarboxylic acid.
  19. (New) A composition according to Claim 8 wherein the dicarboxylic acid is hexanedioic acid.

#### REMARKS

By the amendments presented, Claims 1-7 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Also by the amendments presented, Claim 9 was amended in order to properly depend from Claim 8.

Also by the amendments presented, new Claims 12-19 have been added. Support for these new claims is found, at a minimum, in the claims as originally presented.